

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 17

By Miller L

A RESOLUTION to honor and commend Vice President Albert Gore, Jr. for his laudable service to this nation and the State of Tennessee.

WHEREAS, it is fitting that the members of this General Assembly should salute those political and governmental leaders who through their extraordinary efforts have distinguished themselves as remarkable citizens of whom we can all be proud; and

WHEREAS, one such noteworthy person is Vice President Albert Gore, Jr., a Tennessean and an outstanding public servant who has spent twenty-five years promoting effective and responsive government for all people; and

WHEREAS, his record of service is indeed one of moment and accomplishment; his career is one which should be emulated by all those who seek and serve in public office, but it is not likely that his achievements shall soon be equaled; and

WHEREAS, as a citizen of the State of Tennessee, Vice President Gore has proven his commitment to improving the quality of life for this state's citizens; and

WHEREAS, as a citizen of the United States, Vice President Gore has always worked sedulously to better the lives of America's working people; and

WHEREAS, the Vice President began his ongoing commitment to serving the people of this state and nation when he was elected to represent the Fourth District of Tennessee in the United States House of Representatives in 1976; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Gore continued his dedication to public service during his tenure in the United States Senate from 1984-1992; and

WHEREAS, he served his home state so well that he was re-elected to the U.S. Senate in 1990 with an unprecedented majority in each of Tennessee's 95 counties; and

WHEREAS, Vice President Gore epitomizes the spirit and commitment that is characteristic of a true Tennessean; he was raised in Carthage, Tennessee and Washington, D.C. by his much revered father, the late United States Senator Albert Gore, Sr., and his mother, Pauline Gore; and

WHEREAS, he graduated with honors from Harvard University, from which he received a degree in government, in 1969; and

WHEREAS, he valiantly served his country by volunteering for enlistment in the United States Army and then serving in Vietnam; and

WHEREAS, prior to the beginning of his career in the public sector, Al Gore served adroitly as an investigative reporter for *The Tennessean*; and

WHEREAS, he then sought to further his education, which would serve as the basis for his extraordinary political career, at Vanderbilt University's Divinity School and Law School; and

WHEREAS, Al Gore has served with distinction as the forty-fifth Vice President of the United States of America; President Bill Clinton and he have astutely led the country during a period of unprecedented economic growth and prosperity; and

WHEREAS, he has demonstrated his resolve to improving and protecting the lives of all Americans through his adroit service as President Clinton's Advisor on Foreign Policy, President of the United States Senate, and as a member of the President's Cabinet and the National Security Council; and

WHEREAS, he is the author of a nationally best-selling volume that investigates the relationship of citizens to their environment: *EARTH IN THE BALANCE: Ecology and the Human Spirit*; he is passionately committed to protecting and preserving the environment for future generations, writing: "We must make the rescue of the environment the central organizing principle for civilization"; and

WHEREAS, Albert Gore, Jr. is most grateful for the love and companionship he shares with his wife, Mary Elizabeth "Tipper" Aitcheson Gore, and their children: Karennia (married to Drew Schiff), Kristin, Sarah, and Albert III; he rejoices in the new addition to his family, Karennia and Drew's son, Wyatt, who made a patriotic appearance on July 4, 2000; and

WHEREAS, Mrs. Gore is a strong and committed advocate for families, women, children, and numerous mental health issues; she has served as Mental Health Policy Advisor to the President; and

WHEREAS, Vice President Gore and his family find solace and comfort on their small farm near Carthage, Tennessee, where they attend services at New Salem Missionary Baptist Church; and

WHEREAS, Al Gore "has always pursued policies that unlock the creativity, the ingenuity, and the hard work of the American people"; and

WHEREAS, this General Assembly finds it appropriate to pause in its deliberations to acknowledge and applaud Vice President Al Gore for his dedicated public service to the United States of America, and particularly to the state of Tennessee and his fellow citizens; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED SECOND GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, That we hereby honor and commend Vice President Albert Gore as a Tennessean of the greatest stature and ability and extend to him our best wishes for every future success.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.